[24th November 1955

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : Sir, some three years back, the Hon. Minister for Health presided over a function in Ponvilanthakalathur near Chingleput to open a dispensary. On the same occasion, Dr. Varadarajalu Naidu also took part in that function. The hospital is still there without a doctor. Subsequently, it was known that no medicines were available. Only the closing ceremony was not presided over by a Minister. Does the Hon. Minister know all these things, Sir?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : This joke has been repeated *ad nauseam*. I do not think the hon. Member is giving any new information.

SRI K. PARTHASARATHY : Sir, when fully qualified medical practitioners are not available for appointment in rural dispensaries the Government have been appointing B Class practitioners for these dispensaries. Is it a fact, Sir, that even B Class practitioners are not available in sufficient numbers? Have the Government any proposal to train persons emergently to fill up the vacancies in the meantime before another medical college is established?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : Government have stated, Sir, that hereafter B Class practitioners who have not been trained in any institution recognized by the Government, should not be appointed to these dispensaries.

Exemption from sales-tax

* 2817 *Q*.—SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received representations from the Tellicherry Milk Union in 1954–55 requesting for exemption from sales-tax for co-operative milk unions; and

(*b*) whether any decision has been taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) At present sales-tax on sales of milk is levied only at one point, viz., the stage of sale to the consumer and this too only in respect of sales effected by milk supply societies and unions. The Government have decided that there are no grounds for granting total exemption in respect of all sales of milk.

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Since the infant unions find it very difficult to compete with small milk vendors and since it is very useful to have milk unions in every small town, may I know whether the Government have any proposal to make the first ten years of the union's life free from sales-tax for milk sales?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Sir, co-operative milk societies were paying sales-tax at different stages. Now we are levying it only at one stage. Unless there are some strong grounds, it will not be possible to consider the request.

24th November 1955]

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Is the sales-tax on tinned milk or mother's milk, Sir?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Yes, Sir. It is cow's milk and not the milk which the hon. member is referring to.

* 2818 *Q.*—SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received a representation, dated 30th May 1955 from Panangad Coconut-Jaggery Producers Co-operative Society, South Malabar, for exempting them from payment of sales-tax for the year 1954–55; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) It is under the consideration of the Government.

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN : May I know, Sir, whether the Government will expedite consideration?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Yes. All considerations are generally being expedited.

Barapuzha Project

* 2819 *Q.*—SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government have investigated the irrigational possibilities in Malabar of the Barapuzha Project?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : The proposed project is located in the Coorg State and the question of investigating its irrigational possibilities in Malabar does not arise.

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Sir, although the project may be situated in the Coorg State, since its benefits may flow into the neighbouring areas, may I know whether the Government have investigated from that angle?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : Yes, Sir. We have to investigate from every angle. Perhaps the proposed Kerala State may tackle the question.

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : As the matter been represented to the Government of Madras and as the Madras Government were pleased to investigate with regard to the rivers in the Travancore-Cochin State where without coming to any expert opinion fifty-six lakhs of rupees have been allotted, will the Government see that the scheme is pushed through because it will go a long way to help Malabar?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : No. We have not investigated nor do we propose to investigate it. Because, as I have already pointed out, the Kerala State to be formed will be the fit Government to tackle this problem.